



Fact Sheet:

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CERL Tri-Services Cultural Resources Research Center (CRRC)

The Problem

Most Army installations and Department of Defense (DOD) agencies cannot afford a full-time cultural resources staff, and these responsibilities are often assigned to environmental specialists as one of many duties. Many of these workers have little or no training in cultural resources management or historic preservation. Without proper guidance, the individual project or project manager may waste funds unknowingly by developing procedures that are already available.

Presently, much of the research necessary for cultural resource planning is contracted to non-DOD agencies and institutions with limited understanding of mission requirements and specific preservation problems on military installations. Products that are inappropriate for the installation and overruns on contracting costs are some examples of problems with this system.

The Technology

The Tri-Services Cultural Resources Research Center (CRRC) was established at the U.S. Army Construction Engineering Research Laboratories (CERL) to assist the Army and DOD in complying with Federal law and Armed Forces preservation legislation. By establishing a group of professional preservation

personnel at a centralized location, the CRRC provides a cost-effective method for complying with these laws.

The CRRC is capable of providing DOD agencies with emergency compliance assistance; training; technical support in cultural resources analysis and recordation, communications and remote sensing; Geographic Information Systems (GISs); and Computer-aided Design and Drafting technology in diverse areas of prehistoric and historic archaeology, Native American consultation, historic architecture, historic landscapes and compliance issues. The CRRC also coordinates long-term, nationally oriented research projects that will focus on the implementation of cost-effective historic preservation planning at a DOD-wide level.

Internally, the CRRC is a group of experts in fields related to cultural resources, historic preservation, and compliance. They work under a cooperative agreement that coordinates cultural resources activities within CERL's various laboratories.

The team includes professionals and graduate students with specialties in historic and prehistoric archaeology; cultural anthropology; osteology; ethnology; architecture; cultural resources management; data base design; spatial analysis; GIS data development and applications; statistical analysis; and historic structure design, documentation, and condition assessments.

Benefits/Savings

Good preservation planning results from historical, architectural, anthropological, and archaeological-oriented background research that can provide local, regional, and national contexts necessary for efficient, cost-effective cultural resource management at the local level. Rather than evaluating cultural resources on a purely case-by-case basis, the approach of the CRRC focuses on creating methodologies which allow cultural resources to be evaluated and managed on a national scale.

Status

The CRRC has the expertise at its disposal to assist DOD agencies with compliance and preservation needs in various projects. The team's experts used

technologies to locate archaeological sites at the U.S. Military Academy, NY; Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (AFB), OH; Fort Benjamin Harrison, IN; Fort Riley, KS; and Fort Leonard Wood, MO. They have conducted small compliance assistance projects for over 60 DOD installations.

The CRRC provided architectural assistance during the reconstruction of the 1905 Wright Brothers Hangar at Wright-Patterson AFB. They have also conducted geophysical testing techniques and remote sensing to pinpoint the location of the 1910 Wright Brothers hangar at Wright-Patterson AFB and physical and chemical analyses of soils at Forts Benjamin Harrison, Riley, and Ord, CA.

Projects have included the preparation of a Historic Preservation Plan for Wright-Patterson AFB, historical and architectural documentation of World War II temporary structures for the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and National Guard at Fort McCoy, WI; Camp Edwards, MA; Arlington Hall Station, VA; Fort Sill, OK; and Oakland Army Base, CA. Other phases of this project included over 33 site visits for structural evaluation and Section 106 compliance assistance of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Two national level baseline studies currently in progress will assist Army Materiel Command and Training and Doctrine Command in cost-effective and consistent evaluation of historic buildings in their inventories.

Point of Contact

CERL POC is [Dr. John Isaacson](#), COMM 217-373-4571. The following individuals may be contacted regarding their program areas: [John Isaacson](#), archeology and Native American consultation, COMM 217-373-4571; [Sheila McCarthy](#) and [Suzanne Loechl](#), historic building and landscape assessments, COMM 217-352-6511, ext. 7302, and ext. 7397, respectively; [Ellen Segan](#), corrosion, COMM 217-373-6768; and [Pat Kemme](#), chemistry laboratory, COMM 217-352-6511, ext. 430. All may be reached toll-free 800-USA-CERL; FAX 217-373-7222; or CERL, P.O. Box 9005, Champaign, IL 61826-9005.

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